

Checklist of proper notice for .26 hearing:

You must find whether proper notice was given for the .26 hearing. [See WIC §294(d).] Notice to the parent is deemed proper under any one of the following methods:

- ☐ When setting the .26 hearing, you order the parent to be present and direct that service of notice be made on the parent by first-class mail [WIC §294(f)(1)];
- ☐ By certified mail to the parent's last known address with signed return receipt [WIC §294(f)(2)];
- ☐ By personal service to the parent [WIC §294(f)(3)];
- ☐ By substituted service to the parent [WIC §294(f)(4)];
- ☐ To an out-of-state parent, by certified mail, return receipt requested [WIC §294(f)(5)];
- ☐ If a parent's identity is known but his or her whereabouts are unknown, and due diligence to locate the parent is shown, to the parent's counsel, by certified mail, return receipt requested; if there is no attorney for the parent, by publication [WIC §294(f)(7)(A)]; or
- ☐ If a parent's identity is unknown, court determines there has been due diligence to identify unknown parent, and social worker recommends adoption, by court-ordered publication notice if court determines that notice by publication is likely to lead to actual notice to the parent [WIC §294(g)(1)–(2)].

If guardianship or long-term foster care is the recommended plan, notice to the parent is deemed proper under any one of the following methods:

- ☐ By first-class mail to the parent's usual place of residence or business [WIC §294(f)(6)]; or
- ☐ If the parent's whereabouts are unknown, by first-class mail to the grandparents if their identities and addresses are known [WIC §294(f)(7)(B)]; but
- ☐ If a parent's identity is unknown, court determines there has been due diligence to identify unknown parent, and social worker recommends guardianship or long-term foster care, no further notice is required [WIC §294(g)(3)].